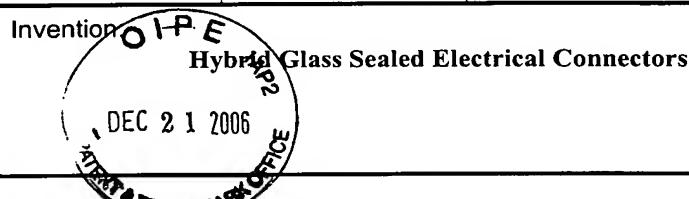


**COMBINED AMENDMENT & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) (Small Entity)**

Docket No.
Ring-001

In Re Application Of: John H. Ring, et al.

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/785,576	24 February 2004	Chandrika Prasad	021897	2839	9882



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This is a combined amendment and petition under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a response to the Office Action of 1 September 2006 in the above-identified application.

The requested extension is as follows (check time period desired):

One month Two months Three months Four months Five months

from: 1 December 2006 until: 1 January 2007

Date

Date

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

The fee for the amendment and extension of time has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	23 -	20 =	3	x \$25.00	\$75.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	4 -	5 =	0	x \$100.00	\$0.00
FEE FOR AMENDMENT					\$75.00
FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME					\$60.00
TOTAL FEE FOR AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION OF TIME					\$135.00

**COMBINED AMENDMENT & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) (Small Entity)**

Docket No.
Ring-001



The fee for the amendment and extension of time is to be paid as follows:

A check in the amount of \$135.00 for the amendment and extension of time is enclosed.

Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2166

Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor and charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 13-2166

Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William E. Johnson, Jr.". Below the signature is the word "Signature" in a smaller, italicized font.

William E. Johnson, Jr.

Reg. No. 22,719

The Matthews Firm (Customer No. 021897)

2000 Bering Drive, Suite 700

Houston, Texas 77057

US

713-355-4200 Telephone

713-355-9689 Facsimile

cc:

Dated:

12/21/06

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on _____.

(Date)

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence